



# PSC NEWS

## Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-02-111

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### **PSC Revises Hearing Schedule in PSC Staff Complaint Against AmerenUE**

Jefferson City (January 3, 2002)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has accepted a joint proposal which revises the hearing schedule in a PSC Staff complaint case against Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE. Hearings, originally scheduled to begin on March 4, 2002, will now begin on July 11, 2002. The hearing schedule is as follows: July 11-12, 15-19, 22-26, and August 1-2, 2002, if necessary. These hearings will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building (200 Madison Street) in Jefferson City.

The joint proposal approved by the Commission was submitted by the PSC Staff and AmerenUE. The Office of the Public Counsel supports the proposed procedural schedule change and no party in the case objected to the schedule revisions. The parties requested a revised schedule to allow additional time to file testimony and prepare for the case using the more current test year. The more current test year will give the Commission the most current information available upon which to determine rates.

**As part of the joint proposal, AmerenUE has agreed that if the Commission ultimately determines that a rate decrease is warranted, that rate reduction would be retroactive to April 1, 2002, regardless of when the Commission issues its decision.**

The Commission stated in its order: "This protection for Missouri ratepayers combined with the enhanced opportunity for discovery of all pertinent facts creates 'win-win' proposal. The refore, the Commission is compelled to grant the additional time requested by the parties. Although this additional time will somewhat delay the Commission's schedule, the benefit which this delay provides for the ratepayers outweighs any other consideration."

Alleging AmerenUE's current electric rates are not just and reasonable, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission filed a complaint case against the state's largest electric utility on July 2, 2001, seeking to reduce annual electric revenues in the range of \$213 to \$250 million a year.

AmerenUE serves approximately 1.1 million electric customers in Missouri.

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Case No. EC-2002-1